

OCA 88-0805
17 March 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bill Katopish
NIO for Narcotics

FROM: [redacted] Legislation Division
Office of Congressional Affairs

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SUBJECT: Congressional Investigation of Drug Policy Board

1. A House Judiciary Subcommittee is conducting an investigation of the National Drug Policy Board. Specifically, they are investigating whether the Board altered a national strategy paper to combat drug abuse so that it would fit within Administration budgetary plans. They have requested that the Board provide them drafts of the national strategy paper, but the Board refused to provide such drafts. The Subcommittee is now considering subpoenaing the documents from the Board.

2. To ensure that evidence of various drafts of the strategy paper are preserved, they have sent form letters to 17 departments and agencies of the government requesting that they preserve the final version of the strategy paper and any drafts or comments that may have been made on the paper. The Agency has received such a letter, which I have attached.

3. I understand from your deputy that you have acted as the interface for the Agency with the National Drug Policy Board. Should you have any documents relevant to the subcommittee request, you should comply with the request contained in the letter to preserve those documents. If you are aware of any other component in the Agency that would have documents relevant to this request, please let me know so that I may provide this letter to them. Unless you object, we will inform the subcommittee that you have been notified of the request to preserve documents.

4. I am, of course, available to answer any further questions you may have on this request. I can be reached on [redacted]

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Attachment
as stated

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ONE HUNDREDTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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ER 1168X-88

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, JUSTICE, AND AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

8-348-C RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

March 9, 1988

The Honorable William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

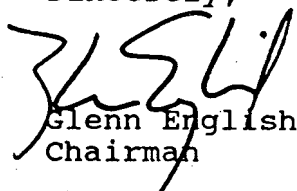
Dear Director Webster:

The Subcommittee on Government Information, Justice, and Agriculture is conducting an investigation concerning the National Drug Policy Board and the national strategy for antidrug abuse efforts. One of the key matters pertinent to this investigation is the strategy paper on this subject prepared by your department. In order to avoid destruction of documents for this investigation, we are notifying you to preserve your final or latest version of your strategy paper; any drafts, including those in word processor memories or other electronic form; and any record of comments or responses to any version.

You and your department should be aware that the destruction of records, once notice has been given of the pendency of an investigation, may carry grave penalties. Such document destruction has been held to constitute obstruction of Congress violating section 1505 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code. That section provides that "Whoever corruptly . . . endeavors to influence, obstruct, or impede . . . the due and proper exercise of the power of inquiry under which any inquiry or investigation is being had by . . . any committee of either House . . . of the Congress--[s]hall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both."

Please inform the subcommittee that the appropriate personnel of your department have been notified to preserve the strategy documents and provide us with their names and titles.

Sincerely,


Glenn English
Chairman